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"UNCLE SAM'S FOREST RANGERS"

Episode #58.

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11:30 to 12:30 P.M. C.S.T.

APRIL 6, 1933

THURSDAY

ORCHESTRA:

ANNOUNCER: "Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers" --

ORCHESTRA: QUARTET

ANNOUNCER: The life of a ranger, amid mountains and forests, is often fraught with grave dangers and unforeseen perils. While the role of hero does not form a part of the ordinary day's work of a ranger, there are many true stories on record where officers of the United States Forest Service have performed outstanding acts of bravery, often at the risk of their own lives. These unsung heroes wear only the pine-tree badge of a forest ranger, but their deeds are worthy of the best traditions of our country.

 Last week we left Ranger Jim in a blinding snowstorm, where, exhausted and with frozen feet, he was giving his last ounce of strength in an attempt to drag the injured boy, Phil Riggs, through the blizzard to safety. -- Did the rescue party discover them in time? Let's drop in at the Pine Cone Ranger Station and see if we can find out. --

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MARY: I was so worried about you, Jerry, ---

JERRY: Gee, that's swell, Mary!

MARY: Why -- I should say not -- what do you mean?

JERRY: I mean it's swell that -- that you'd worry about me.

MARY: Why of course I would, Jerry.

JERRY: It was sure nice of you to come along with Mrs. Robbins when she brought the doctor over.

MARY: I just had to know that you were all right, Jerry. -- And then I was awfully worried about Mr. Robbins, and Phill Riggs, too -- still up there in the storm, you know. -- You haven't really told me yet how you found them.

JERRY: I know, Mary, I've hardly had a chance to really talk to you since, - I've been so busy, with Jim kinda laid up and everything.

MARY: Tell me about it now.

JERRY: Well - we found them on the flat down at the foot of the mountain - see? - Jim had Phil Riggs tied to the toboggan, and he was lying there face down in the snow --

MARY: Mr. Robbins, you mean?

JERRY: Yeah, Jim. He was clean gone - and he kinda had his arm around Phil trying to protect him from the storm --

MARY: Oh, Jerry, wasn't that splendid of him! -- I'm so glad you found them in time.

JERRY: Gosh, I am too. -- I guess they wouldn't have lasted much longer in that blizzard.

MARY: But weren't they almost frozen to death?

JERRY: Well, Phil came through in pretty good shape, even with his broken leg. -- You see, Jim wrapped him up in his sweater and heavy sheepskin coat - and kept him bundled up in his arms all night long to keep him warm.

MARY: But how did Mr. Robbins keep from freezing?

JERRY: Gosh, I don't know. -- Better let Jim tell you himself; there he is over there in the doorway.

MARY: Oh Mr. Robbins, we're so proud of you! Every one in Winding Creek is talking about how brave you were - saving Phil Riggs' life --

JIM: (COMING UP) Whoa now, Mary - You've got it all wrong. Its Jerry here that saved our lives - getting a rescue party and finding us --

MARY: Yes, I'm proud of Jerry too.

JERRY: Huh? A lot I did. -- What about the trip Mrs. Robbins and Mary made to get the doctor out there?

MARY: Why, all the credit for that belongs to Mrs. Robbins, Jerry. She drove the car. -- I'm awfully proud of all of you. -- But didn't you get badly frozen, Mr. Robbins?

JIM: Me? (CHUCKLES) Well, now, come to think of it, I did get nipped a little.

MARY: Oh, that's too bad.

JERRY: I'll say he got nipped. -- Want to sit down in this easy chair, Jim?

JIM: Thanks, Jerry - I guess I wouldn't mind, at that.

MARY: Why, Mr. Robbins, you're limping. Let me help you.

JIM: Don't bother, Mary - it's nothing - just my old bum knee. I gave it a wrench, slidin' down the cliff after the Riggs boy.

JERRY: Don't let him fool you, Mary. It isn't all his knee. It's those frozen feet that's bothering him -- Gee, the doctor said he was mighty lucky he didn't lose 'em.

MARY: Oh, Mr. Robbins!

JIM: Hey, look here now. (CHUCKLING) You kids are going to have me plum spoiled - with all this sympathy. -- I'm all right now. I can still travel with the best of 'em, I guess.

MARY: Oh, that's fine, Mr. Robbins!

JIM: (CHUCKLING) Yep. Still a little travel left in the old horse yet. -- Say - that reminds me - did you see Ranger Roy Truman's note in the News Letter about Toby?

JERRY: Toby who?

JIM: Just plain Toby, I reckon. Toby of the Forest Ranger Force, down on the San Isabel. He's been Truman's top saddle horse for many years. (CHUCKLES) 'Course I wouldn't trade Dolly for him, though.

MARY: Oh, tell us about him, Mr. Robbins.

JIM: Well, the first person that ever saw Toby was Ted Walker, - he was foreman of the Moffat ranch out in the San Luis valley - and it was way back in 1913 when he found Toby out on the open range with his mother. The little fellow was just a few days old, but even then he showed marks of style you don't often find in "cold blooded" range horses.

MARY: Oh, I can just imagine -- can't you picture the cute little colt out on the range?

JIM: Yep. -- Well, in the course of time, the ranch foreman broke and trained him, and it wasn't long till Toby was rated as one of the best cow horses in the whole San Luis Valley. And besides that, he made a good record as a rope horse in ropin' contests at the Ski Hi Stampede. -- Anyway, after the spring round-up in 1920 Toby was in the outfit to follow the drive of the herds up to the summer range in the national Forest, and pretty soon they came to Creede, where all the stock coming into the Forest was tallied and inspected by Forest Rangers. Right away Truman spots Toby, and right away there was a horse deal on. Truman rode home the owner of Toby - and feelin' pretty proud of his bargain, too even if it did leave the balance in his check book lookin' kinda slim.

JERRY: So Toby joined the Forest Rangers.

JIM: Yep, and he was a first class ranger horse right from the first. He seemed to realize he was the ranger's top horse, and he'd get jealous and crowd in on you in the corral if another horse was saddled for a trip. He was never know to lose a trail - even in the darkest night or the worst kind of a storm. It was safe enough for children to ride him, but he'd throw the best of riders if they got rough with him.

JERRY: He sure must've been a great horse, Jim.

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JIM: Yep, he was a good horse. They used him a lot on sheep range inspection work, mostly 'way up above timberline in rough hard country, and Toby learned pretty quick that no sheep bands or camps were to be missed, and he'd never let the ranger miss one. He could hear sheep a mile off - or smell 'em, maybe - and go straight for 'em day or night. -- Well, Toby's nearly 20 years old now - been under government contract about 12 years, and ridden several thousand miles in the Government service. -- Never been hit with a quirt or cut with a spur. And now a younger horse is taking his official place. Roy's going to just turn him out on good pasture for the rest of his life.

JERRY: I guess he's earned it all right.

MARY: I should say! Isn't that splendid!!!

JIM: Well - now that us rangers get around by auto quite a bit - we have to, you know, if we're going to cover these big districts of ours -- I've heard folks say that the ranger horses are kinda fading out of the picture.

MARY: It's rather a shame too -- somehow rangers and horses seem to go together.

JIM: Yep - but I reckon nobody needs to worry about that. There'll always be plenty of places in our national forests where an automobile can't go, so I guess the rangers'll be needin' their horses for quite a spell yet.

JERRY: Yeah, I'll say so.

JIM: Yep, my horse Dolly and I still have several more years of work to do together.

JERRY: I bet my Spark's going to be a first class ranger horse before long, too.

JIM: Well, that horse of yours has the makin's of a first class member of the ranger force.

JERRY: (LAUGHING) I guess you can't say as much about his owner, though, huh?

JIM: (CHUCKLING) Well, now, I wouldn't want to commit myself in front of the schoolma'am, here.

MARY: (LAUGHING) No, you'd better not.

JIM: Well, anyway - as I was saying - Dolly and I still have plenty of work to do.

MARY: Dolly's a wonderful horse too, Mr. Robbins. She seems to have almost human intelligence.

JIM: Well now, I'd say that in some respects she's got a darn site more intelligence than most humans.

 (JERRY AND MARY LAUGH) She's kinda getting along in years, though. Her time'll be up one of these days - although I might as well own up that the way I feel right now she'll probably outlast me at that.

MARY: You certainly did have a frightful experience, Mr. Robbins - up in that storm. It's a wonder you ever came out alive.

JIM: Well, don't worry, now. I reckon I'll be in good shape as ever in a day or two.

MARY: Oh, I certainly hope so, Mr. Robbins. -- I must be going now. We'll see you at the community meeting tonight, won't we, Mr. Robbins?

JIM: I think not, Mary. I think I'll try and let 'em get along without me this time.

MARY: Oh, Mrs. Robbins said you were going.

JIM: Huh? Did she? (CALLS) Oh, Bess.

BESS: (OFF) Yes, Jim?

JIM: (CALLS) Come here a minute, can you?

BESS: (COMING UP) Oh dear, you would call me just when I was frosting a cake. -- (UP) Well, what is it?

JIM: (MOCK SEVERITY) Look here now. I hear you've got me all signed up to go to this meeting tonight.

BESS: Don't you feel like going, Jim?

JIM: Well, I was just thinkin' this easy chair feels pretty comfortable. Kinda hate to leave it.

BESS: Oh, but Jim, I promised you'd come. The mayor said they just had to have you there.

JIM: (CHUCKLING) He did, huh?

BESS: Yes - even if we had to bring you in a wheel chair.

JIM: Huh? -- Say now -- I guess I don't need any wheel chair yet. I can still get there under my own power --

(MUSICAL INTERLUDE)

(FADE WITH HUM OF VOICES, SCRAPING OF CHAIRS, ETC. CONTINUOUS THROUGH FOLLOWING)

VOICE: Howdy, Jim.

JIM: Hi, Al.

VOICE: Still havin' trouble gettin' around, eh?

JIM: Well, a little bit, maybe --

JERRY: Lemme help you, Jim. Here, lean on my arm some -

JIM: I'm getting along fine, Jerry - considerin' -

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BESS: We'd better sit down in these chairs here, Jim. The mayor's about to start the meeting.

JIM: All right -- (GRUNTS IN SITTING) - Uh. -- Wonder why they were so anxious to have me here, Bess? Seems like they oughta let a fellow enjoy being under the weather just once.

BESS: Shh-h. He's going to start the meeting --

(RAPPING ON TABLE, OFF)

MAYOR: (OFF) The meeting will please come to order --

(HUM OF VOICES SUBSIDES)

MAYOR: (OFF) Ladies and gentlemen -- We're meeting here tonight to consider -- (FADING OFF)

(SILENCE FOUR OR FIVE SECONDS; FADE IN WITH HUM OF VOICES AND APPLAUSE)

MAYOR: And now, ladies and gentlemen - that finishes up our regular business program. (HUM OF VOICES)

VOICE: There's one thing more.

MAYOR: (RAPS ON TABLE) Yes there's one thing more.

(HUM OF VOICES SUBSIDES)-- Now, friends, I have another duty to perform. -- As your Mayor for the past sixteen years I may say that this is one of the proudest moments of my career - for tonight we have gathered together not only to consider matters of the welfare of our community, but also to do honor to one who has even been foremost in promoting the welfare of our community, to one of Winding Creek's most distinguished and beloved citizens. -- Ranger Jim Robbins, will you please come forward?

(LOUD CHEERS AND CLAPPING - CRIES OF "GO ON JIM," "RAY FOR JIM", ETC..)

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JIM: (HALF WHISPER) Say, what's all this about, Boss?

BESS: (HALF WHISPER) I don't know, Jim - but go ahead.
Herry can help you up there.

JIM: (HALF WHISPER) I can make it - I s'pect.

(APPLAUSE; VOICES SAYING "POOR MAN;" "HE'S STILL LIMPING;" "HIS
FEET WERE FROZEN," ETC.)

MAYOR: My friends - we all know of the recent accident to a
young man of our community - who, I am happy to say, is
making good progress at the hospital in Willow Glen.
You all know, too, of the part that Ranger Jim Robbins
played in saving this young man's life - even at the
risk of his own.

(CHEERS AND CLAPPING; VOICE SAYS "YOU BET WE DO")

MAYOR: Forest Ranger Jim Robbins, - as Mayor of Winding
Creek, and as one who has known and respected you for
many years, it is an honor for me, tonight, to
present to you, on behalf of all of our citizens,
this token of our appreciation and highest esteem.

(SOUND OF LOUD CHEERS AND CLAPPING; VOICE CALLS "GOOD OLD JIM - WE'RE
PROUD OF YOU;" VOICES CALLING "SPEECH - SPEECH")

JIM: (BROKENLY) Friends, - I - I don't know what to say -
only - thank you all - and God bless you.

(MORE CHEERS AND CLAPPING; HUM OF VOICES UP)

BESS: (COMING UP) Oh, I'm so proud of you, Jim. -- Jim,
what is it?

JIM: It's a badge.

JERRY: Gee, it's a gold pine-tree badge.

MARY: The emblem of Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers.

The first part of the paper is devoted to a general discussion of the problem. It is shown that the problem is of great importance in the theory of the structure of the atom. The second part is devoted to a detailed discussion of the problem. It is shown that the problem is of great importance in the theory of the structure of the atom. The third part is devoted to a detailed discussion of the problem. It is shown that the problem is of great importance in the theory of the structure of the atom.

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JIM: There's something engraved on the back. -- You read it, Bess - my eyes seem kinda blurry just now - for some reason or other -

BESS: It says (READS) "To Ranger Jim Robbins, United States Forest Service, from the citizens of Winding Creek."
Wait, what's this? (SPELLS) "S-e-m-p-e-r
f -i-d-e-l-i-s".

JERRY: Semper fidelis. -- That's Latin.

BESS: What does that mean?

MARY: It means "Always faithful."

JERRY: It means just what you are, Jim - "Always faithful" -

ANNOUNCER: "Semper fidelis" - Always faithful. -- How truly that describes the forest ranger - guardian of our national forests.

"Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers" comes to you every Thursday at this hour as a presentation of the National Broadcasting Company, with the cooperation of the United States Forest Service.

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